



CenturyLink™

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September 1, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

EX PARTE NOTICE

Re: CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 99-200, 96-98, 99-68; WC Docket Nos. 05-337, 07-135, 10-90, 03-109, 06-122, 04-36; GN Docket No. 09-51.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On August 30, 2011, Jim Campbell, Vice President – Regional Regulatory and Legislative Affairs - Midwest Region, Jeff Carmon, Director Legislative Affairs – South Dakota and I met in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on behalf of CenturyLink with Commissioner Robert McDowell and his legal advisor Christine Kurth. The meeting was hosted by United States Senator John Thune from South Dakota. Also in attendance were Jessica Yearous, James Long, and Jason Van Beek from the office of Senator Thune, Brian Rounds and Chris Daugaard from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, and Pat McAdaragh and Tom Simmons, with Midcontinent Communications. We discussed the ABC Plan filed on July 29, 2011 in the above-captioned dockets,¹ and we encouraged the Commission to adopt an order implementing the ABC Plan and the consensus framework referenced in the joint letter filed with trade associations representing rural, rate-of-return carriers filed in the same dockets on the same day.² Our discussion followed the attached presentation, and was consistent with the text of the ABC Plan.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, a copy of this notice is being filed in the above-referenced dockets. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S Lanning

cc: Robert McDowell, Christine Kurth

¹ Letter from Robert W. Quinn, Jr., AT&T, Steve Davis, CenturyLink, Michael T. Skrivan, FairPoint, Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Frontier, Kathleen Grillo, Verizon, and Michael D. Rhoda, Windstream, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC, CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 99-200, 96-98, 99-68; WC Docket Nos. 05-337, 07-135, 10-90, 03-109, 06-122, 04-36; GN Docket No. 09-51 (Jul 29, 2011).

² Letter from Jonathan Banks, USTelecom, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC, CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 96-45, 99-200, 96-98, 99-68; WC Docket Nos. 05-337, 07-135, 10-90, 03-109, 06-122, 04-36; GN Docket No. 09-51 (Jul 29, 2011).